

Specification for the New MS exam in Computer Science

The exam will be given on the Friday before graduation applications must be filed with the Office of Graduate Studies (OGS). For the 2008-2009 academic year this will be on November 7, 2008 and on April 10, 2009.

The examination committee each semester will be made up of three faculty members (an OGS requirement) from the Computer Science Department.

Each student will have a 20 minute examination, approximately 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions.

The students taking the exam must:

- A. At least three weeks before the exam check their topic with one of the faculty examiners.
- B. At least two weeks ahead of time apply to take the exam with the current CS Department Program Advisor (now Lynne Jacobsen). The Program Advisor will file this application with the Office of Graduate Studies and assign each applicant a 20 minute time period on the exam day.

For the examination the student will prepare presentation materials, such as slides, or a presentation outline with references (for a blackboard presentation).

Options for the examination presentation include:

- A. A project from one of the MS courses.
- B. Any research-oriented materials, for example from an internship or University-supported job.
- C. Some alternative research area within computer science (not necessarily the student's own) that contains at least one concrete result; e.g., a recent conference paper.